



Battle Road Scenic Byway Committee

Date: April 22, 2021

Time: 10-11 a.m.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://town-arlington-ma-us.zoom.us/j/95214439556>

Meeting ID: 952 1443 9556

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Attendees: Clarissa Rowe, Chair (Arlington); Ali Carter (Arlington); Paul Fennelly (Arlington); Beth Williams (Concord); Paula Vaughn-MacKenzie (Lincoln); Jennifer Curtin (Lincoln); BJ Dunn (NPS); Richard Canale, Vice Chair (Lexington); Bob Domnitz (Lincoln); Jeanne Krieger (Lexington); Sheila Page (Lexington); Connie Raphael (MassDOT)

Guests: Linda Escobedo, Concord Select Board; Jane Herlacher, Lincoln resident.

Minutes

1. Approval of minutes of March 25th meeting deferred to next meeting.

Richard chaired beginning of meeting until Clarissa arrived.

We began by reviewing the roster of committee members for each town: Arlington—Paul, George, and Clarissa. Ali not an official member, rather she plays a merely administrative role on the committee.

Lexington—Richard, Sheila, Jeanne.

Concord—Beth, Nancy, Heather.

Lincoln—Bob, Paula, Jennifer.

All towns now have a full complement of members. It was noted that for subcommittees, non-members from each town were welcome to join.

1. Subcommittee assignments and initial tasks

- a. Tourism, Economic Development, and Outreach members: Ali, Beth, Paula, Jennifer Curtin, Paul, Jennifer Pierce. Ali will ask Casey and Sandhya of Lexington if they want to join as well, as they are not present at today's meeting.
- b. Public Infrastructure and Land Use: Richard, Bob, Jeanne, BJ.

BJ announced that he is retiring but that Jennifer Pierce, Chief of Interpretation, will sit on the committee after his retirement. Members congratulated him and wished him well.

Tim Parris is taking Connie Raphael's place on the committee when she retires.

Linda Escobedo, Select Board member in Concord, has joined committee. Nancy Nelson is a new representative on the committee from Concord and is on the Concord Historical Commission.

BJ asked if we should nominate a Chair for each subcommittee. Richard said he would discuss a work plan with Clarissa and report back to the committee at large at the next meeting.

2. Town/NPS/MassDOT updates

- a. Arlington: Town Meeting is about to begin. Local Rapid Response Program is underway with walking tour of three business districts completed by consultants and project team. Clarissa and George are organizing a community event for the Byway All American Road announcement in the fall.
- b. Lexington: Town Meeting just wrapped up. Center Streetscape remodel is about to begin.
- c. NPS: Happy Earth Day from BJ! Virtual Patriots Day events were successful. Lots of people participating even internationally. President's budget request for NPS has not been approved; includes \$30 million for Minute Man NHP. Visitation at Minute Man up 5% compared to rest of NPS in 2020, which went down. Visitation tracking ahead of projections thus far for 2021. Minute Man Friends group and Freedom's Way piloting community ambassador program. Volunteers helping to keep visitor centers open longer.
- d. MassDOT: status of Rt. 2A project is pre 25% design still being worked on. 25% design will go out to public in September. All comments should be direct to Andrew Wilkins in Boston. Connie will email committee members if pre 25% designs are available. 25% and 75% design plans will go out to public for review. Stratton School improvements in Arlington scheduled for 2024. Rt 2 resurfacing projects in Arlington and Lexington are at full beneficial use.
- e. Lincoln: Monitoring work at Minute Man Tech.

- f. Concord: Patriots Day was calm and quiet. Visitor Center is now open 7 days per week staffed with tour guides.
 - g. Lexington: Visitor Center is open. Received MOTT granted jointly applied for with Concord.
- 3. Next meeting: May 27, 2021 at 10 a.m.